

Support for the recitation “from greater than about 1%” is found, e.g., in Examples 3-11 (see the table on page 11) set forth in the specification.

New claim 17 depends upon claim 1 and recites an alcohol content of from 2% to 30%. New claim 18 also depends upon claim 1 and recites an alcohol content of from 2% to 5%.

In the Office Action, claims 1-4, 6 and 11-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 3,957,672 to Zisman et al. (“Zisman”); and claims 1-3, 7, 8 and 11-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zisman in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,514,301 to Bil et al. (“Bil”).

In view of the aforementioned amendments and the remarks below, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the Office Action.

I. Rejection of Claims 1-4, 6 and 11-15

Claims 1-4, 6 and 11-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zisman.

As stated above, claim 1 has been amended to recite that the polyfluorinated alcohol(s) is present in an amount of from greater than 1% to 30% by weight of the composition. Claims 2-4, 6, 11, 13, 14 and 15 depend directly or indirectly upon claim 1. Claim 12 is directed to a method which uses the composition of claim 1. Claim 14 narrows the alcohol content to a range of from greater than about 1% to 5%. New claims 17 and 18 recite alcohol concentration ranges of from 2% to 30% and from 2% to 5%, respectively.

According to the Office Action, Zisman teaches “up to 1% fluoroalcohol...”

Zisman does not teach the use of the alcohol therein in an amount greater than 1% as recited in claim 1, an amount of from greater than about 1% to 5% as recited in claim 14, an amount of from 2% to 30% as recited in claim 17, or an amount of from 2% to 5% as recited in claim 18. Thus, for at least this reason, Applicants respectfully submit that Zisman would not have rendered obvious instant claims 1-4, 6, 11, 13-15, 17 and 18.

II. Rejection of Claims 1-3, 7, 8 and 11-16

Claims 1-3, 7, 8 and 11-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Zisman in view of Bil.

Like claim 1, claim 16 has been amended to recite that the polyfluorinated alcohol of formula (I) is present in the composition in an amount of from greater than 1% to 30% by weight.

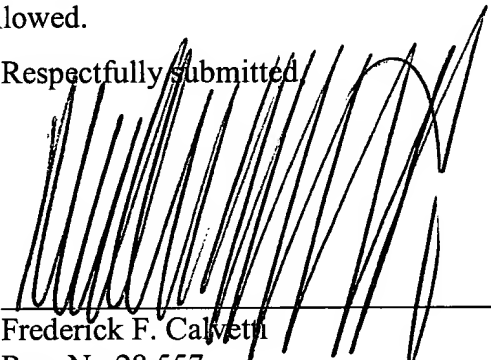
Bil does not teach or suggest the use of the polyfluorinated alcohol recited in Applicant's claims. Therefore, Bil does not cure the failure of Zisman to teach the alcohol content ranges recited in Applicant's claims.

Thus, for at least this reason, Applicant submits that claims 1-3, 7, 8 and 11-18 would not have been obvious over Zisman in view of Bil.

III. Conclusion

In view of the amendments made herein and the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of claims 1-4, 6-8 and 11-16 be withdrawn and that these claims, along with new claims 17 and 18, be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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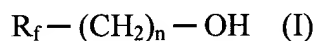
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MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS

1. (Six Times Amended) A dewetting composition, consisting essentially of a solution of between 0.01 and 0.5% by weight of at least one surface-active agent in a mixture of at least one fluorinated solvent and [between 0.1 and] from greater than about 1% to 30% by weight of at least one water-miscible polyfluorinated alcohol of formula:

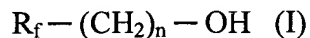


in which n is equal to 1 or 2 and R_f represents a linear or branched perfluoroalkyl radical containing from 4 to 8 carbon atoms,

wherein said composition does not exhibit a flash point under standard determination conditions (ASTM standard D 3828) and wherein the fluorinated solvent is a saturated or unsaturated fluorinated hydrocarbon containing from 3 to 6 carbon atoms.

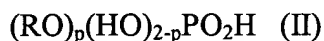
14. (Three Times Amended) The composition according to Claim 1, wherein the content of polyfluorinated alcohol(s) is [between 0.5% and] from greater than about 1% to 5%.

16. (Amended) A dewetting composition, consisting essentially of a solution of at least one surface-active agent in a mixture of at least one fluorinated solvent and from greater than about 1% to 30% by weight of at least one water-immiscible polyfluorinated alcohol of formula:

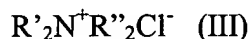


in which n is equal to 1 or 2 and R_f represents a linear or branched perfluoroalkyl radical containing from 4 to 8 carbon atoms,

wherein the surface-active agent consists of a cationic surface-active agent obtained by reaction of a mono- or dialkyl phosphoric acid of formula:



in which p is a number ranging from 1 to 2 and R denotes a linear or branched alkyl radical containing from 1 to 18 carbon atoms, with a quaternary ammonium chloride of formula:



in which R' and R'', which are identical or different, each represent a hydrogen atoms or an alkyl or hydroxyalkyl radical containing 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and a fluorinated amine of formula:



in which R_f represents a linear perfluoroalkyl radical containing from 2 to 20 carbon atoms, X represents a divalent bridge and the symbols R¹ and R², which are identical or different, each represent a hydrogen atom or an alkyl or hydroxyalkyl radical containing 1 to 4 carbon atoms;

further wherein said composition does not exhibit a flash point under standard determination conditions (ASTM standard D 3828) and wherein the fluorinated solvent is a saturated or unsaturated fluorinated hydrocarbon containing from 3 to 6 carbon atoms.